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GEORGE F. HENSHALL, EDITOR

WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 1908

LONDON AND ANARCHISM.

Jack London has written a new book supposed to bring out in the development of a romance his theories of socialism, which are really anarchism,—and the anarchist book comes at a bad time for America. London is a powerful user of words, but will never make much of a reputation for accuracy. And as for moral responsibility—he has been writing some reminiscences of his career as a tramp in which he makes himself appear in the character of a hobo utterly without principle of any kind and wretchedly treacherous even to the fellow hoboes who combined with him to collect the debt of a living which the world is said to owe those who can't or won't make it.

WAVING THE RED FLAG.

The red flag is ominously prominent in America just now. The country is not one to endure an "army of unemployed." The industrious, sober American citizen unable through no fault of his own to get work and support his family is a problem the country will not tolerate. Unless the wheels of industry are started the Mainland is going to see some labor troubles that will be staggering in their effect, with the natural result of an increase in the ranks of the anarchists. Long bread lines are pretty good places in which to sow the seeds of socialism and riot.

ROOSEVELT AND CONGRESS.

The activities of President Roosevelt are often referred to as one of the marvels of the age. There is apparently no subject which he is not ready to "tackle," not even a special science into which he is not ready to plunge impetuously, and woe be to the man who thinks his own training warrants him in disputing the Roosevelt conclusion,—there is a long list of nature-fakers, undesirable citizens, members of the Annapolis club, muckrakers, heroes of the shorter uglier word, malefactors of great wealth, etc., who can testify that the White House nowadays wields the biggest stick ever known and that it isn't safe to disagree on anything from race suicide to the habits of a possum. Though it leads him to many mistakes, this sort of activity is one of the sources of the president's popularity with the American people. They smile at most of the inevitable mistakes that crop up in a strenuous career of letter-writing and speechmaking and have an unshakable conviction that behind it all there is honesty, patriotism, public spirit and earnestness. So Teddy climbs on his errors to higher public esteem and the country consents to forget his errors, to the unspeakable disgust of many members of Congress. The legislative department of the government has had a hard time trying to seem independent while Roosevelt has been Chief Executive.

GREAT ADVANCE IN WIRELESS.

The transport Thomas' record of wirelessing to Honolulu from a distance of nearly a thousand miles is a notable achievement and a forerunner of days when Honolulu will be constantly in wireless touch with the extreme west and the Far East and with vessels scattered about the vast spaces of earth's greatest ocean. Hawaii was the first place in the world to successfully use Marconi's invention as a practical commercial device, and Hawaii is second to no place on earth as a natural center for wireless operations. What other port can compare to Honolulu in the distances on all sides from which vessels at sea can reach a central station? The day is not far distant when we shall be in touch with friends and relatives at sea throughout their journeys, just as are the people on the Atlantic side, as far as the big steamers are concerned.

RUEF GETTING ON TOP AGAIN.

The San Francisco graft prosecution is apparently losing its grip, and Millionaire Glass is the only one of the higher-ups yet landed in jail. It looks as if the wily Ruef had outgeneraled the whole collection of attorneys for the prosecution. His dramatic plea of guilty was to an indictment which, as it now appears, he felt certain would be voided on appeal,—and it was voided, just at the time when the prosecution's patience had given out and Ruef was being transferred from a nice private residence to a real jail. Then followed exposures which show the consummate skill with which this prince of grafters had all along dealt with the district attorney and his aids, getting the priests of his religion as parties to the negotiations for immunity so that they are now witnesses to his claims of special promises. The tables have turned and the prosecutors find it necessary to defend themselves now. And on top of it all, there is a growing public consciousness of the fact that nothing like a fair trial was given to Mayor Schmitz or would have been given to Ruef if he had refused to plead guilty. The whole record of the prosecution's bargaining with the grafters is so disgusting San Francisco that the remaining guilty higher-ups are probably beginning to feel safe.

The news about those Sand island cannon was published in The Star last fall. And the news about the Pacific Mail plans to install wireless on steamers was published in The Star January 4. The Star, however, has no objection to contemporaries repeating such information, and is in fact accustomed to it.

The Star yesterday committed the error of referring to pugilist Roche as the French champion. The truth must be told, however, and it is that he is Irish and that the American champion Burns disgraced himself forever by knocking out Erin's fighter in the first round on the 17th of March. Down all the ages of England's misrule and oppression of Ireland, she never did anything like that. Burns is to fight a French champion next and perhaps the 14th of July would be a proper date.

A new set of admirals will come here with the fleet—Sperry in chief command, Seaton, Schroeder and Wainwright in command of the squadrons.—Advertiser.

Rear Admiral Seaton Schroeder is not two admirals, but one. It

A BIT OF VAUDEVILLE

"So you could demonstrate me some hypnotisms, Ogar?"
 "Yes. I will exercise on you my animal magnetism, Adolf. First make your mind a blank."
 "Id est. Not negat?"
 "Now I make these vigils with my fingers. Do you have any sensations, please?"
 "Yes; I have a sinking sensation."
 "Dot's good, hip on sinking—I have no life breather. Now was you in a trance?"
 "I certainly feel (cassent). Can you make me do anything yet I don't want to?"
 "Sure. Hand me your money. Do dot all you have? Thank you."
 "Vat a strange feeling has over me stealing."
 "You mean vat a strange feeling has over you feeling, too-hee!"
 "Here, you! I don't like this. Vake me up."
 "To do dot id is necessary for me to gif you a swift kick (Thud?) Did you feel id?"
 "Ouch, I should say so!"
 "Vell, dot proofs you haf come also."
 "Come also?"
 "Yes. Come to; ha, ha, ha!"
 "Ah, now my mind is clearing."
 "Listen to him! First he was hushouse and now he is clearing home."
 "I can certify to dot."
 "Now do you know vot habbened ven you took leaf of your?"
 "Yes; my cents took leaf of me, he, he, he!"
 "In conclusion we vomit apology for not making a few passes over der audience, but der manichment has suspended der free list."
 F. W. Schafer, in Seattle Star.

STATUS OF THE GRAFT CASES

THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN THE SCHMITZ CASE HOLDS:

That the District Court of Appeal was correct in its conclusion that the indictment was insufficient in that it did not show that the specific injury to the property of the restaurant keepers threatened by the defendant was an "unlawful injury."

The decision discusses at length what is meant by the term "unlawful injury." It states that in the case at bar the indictment charges that the defendant threatened the restaurant keepers that if money was not paid him he would prevent them from obtaining a retail liquor license. It holds that it is not stated that the defendant proposed to do this by "duress, menace, fraud or undue influence," and that it is not a case where it is sufficient to charge an offense in the language of the statutes defining it.

The decision holds also that the original indictment was inadequate in that it did not specify definitely the exact positions and relations of Schmitz and Ruef.

HOW THE DECISION AFFECTS RUEF, SCHMITZ AND THE PROSECUTION.

HOW THE DECISION AFFECTS SCHMITZ:

The attorneys for the former Mayor will apply to Judge Dunne for the dismissal of all indictments pertaining to extortion. If dismissed, Schmitz' bail will be reduced at least \$50,000. William J. Dingee and Thomas H. Williams will be his bondsmen.

HOW THE DECISION AFFECTS RUEF:

The decision aids Ruef in the "extortion" cases. The prosecution, however, intends pressing the other charges against both defendants.

HOW IT AFFECTS THE PROSECUTION:

The prosecution is determined to leave no stone unturned to bring Ruef, Schmitz and others to justice. They claim to be undaunted by the decision, and will take up the battle with renewed vigor.

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Tales Worth Telling

AN APPRAISEMENT.

A woman fell from a ferryboat crossing over to Camden the other day, and a poor Irishman sprang over and rescued her. When she was safely landed on the deck her husband, who had been a calm spectator of the accident, handed the brave fellow a quarter.

Some of the bystanders expressing their indignation, Pat said: "Arrah, don't blame the gentleman—he knows best. Perhaps if I hadn't saved her, he'd have given me a dollar."

HE GAVE HIMSELF AWAY.

Apropos of the movement in New York toward the abolition of race track gambling, Mrs. Jack J. Warren the witty Vermont reformer, said the other day in Burlington:

"Race-track gamblers always claim that everything about the game is square, absolutely square. Cross-examine them very closely, though; look into all their methods; question them on every point, and, usually, like Col. Toddy of Tin Can, they'll give themselves away."

"Col. Toddy of Tin Can was a whist sharp."

"I once, and once only," he said in the smoking room, "had all thirteen trumps dealt me."

"You, I suppose, were—er—the dealer?" some one said.

"No sir," he roared. "No, sir, blast your impudence, I was not the dealer!"

"The other nodded calmly."

"Then, may I ask," he said, "what

happened to the trump which the dealer turned up?"

VICTORY SO-CALLED.

James Carroll the amateur light-weight boxing champion of San Francisco, said at the end of a recent women's boxing and fencing exhibition.

"Physical culture among women, women's growing strength and pluck, lend interest to marriage, change marriage's complexion."

"How is poor Smithers gettin' on?" said one man to another.

"Well," said the other "Smithers is now almost recovered from the beatin' he gave his wife last Saturday night."

OH PSHAW!

One of the consuls to Persia, during a recent visit home, said at a dinner recently:

"The present shah will never be the equal of his predecessor. What a character the late shah was. He never opened his mouth without saying something worth repeating."

"Lady Drummond Wolfe once got permission to visit the shah's harem. She took a friend with her, a Miss Blank, who was about to be married. The two Englishwomen wandered over the splendid palace, among the hundreds of beautiful young girls, and presently the shah encountered them."

"Come here," he said to Miss Blank, in his crude French.

"She approached. He looked closely at her."

"You are about to be married?" he said.

"Yes, your highness."

"It's late!"

When half of the men become fond of doing a thing the other half prohibit it by law.—Aitchison Globe.

may be that Bob Evans, as the morning paper recently insisted, will never be a full admiral,—that is a matter of some doubt,—but one thing certain is that Seaton Schroeder will never be two rear admirals.

MENU

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